



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)

Sahelian West Africa – Humanitarian Emergency

Fact Sheet #5, Fiscal Year (FY) 2005

September 2, 2005

Note: The last fact sheet was dated August 26, 2005.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
Affected population – Niger	2,700,000	Government of Niger, August 19, 2005
Affected population – Mali	1,000,000	WFP ¹ , August 5, 2005
Affected population – Mauritania	600,000	WFP, August 5, 2005
Affected population – Burkina Faso	500,000	WFP, August 5, 2005
Total Affected Population²	4,800,000	

Total FY 2005 USAID Assistance to Niger, Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso, Senegal, and Sahel Regional Locust Response..... \$134,098,006

CURRENT SITUATION

Regional Update

- The Assistant Administrator of USAID’s Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/DCHA), Michael Hess, traveled to Niger and Mali from August 19 to 28 to visit USAID-funded projects in affected areas and conduct humanitarian assessments with USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART) representatives in the field. Assistant Administrator Hess and his delegation reported that fields are green and crops appear abundant and healthy throughout Mali, and that Niger will probably have a good harvest this year. However, Assistant Administrator Hess expressed concern with household debt levels throughout the region due to household borrowing to survive the current lean season and carry-over debt from the lean season in 2004.

Niger Update

- From August 9 to 26, the USAID/DART, including the public health and nutrition advisor, visited Diffa, Tillaberi, and Zinder regions to monitor partner program implementation and identify unmet needs. The team also met with NGOs and U.N. partners in Niamey to better understand the nutrition situation countrywide. The USAID/DART found that the nutrition crisis is localized, data collection is poor, and the health system does not function adequately. Some households have increased vulnerability due to poor harvests and animal losses in 2004, and poor feeding and caring for infants and children contribute to malnutrition.
- Based on these findings, the USAID/DART recommended that emergency responses to save the lives of malnourished children be coupled with activities that build the resilience of poorer and vulnerable households, including livelihoods recovery programs such as cash-for-work, cash-for-relief, animal health, food production, and seed voucher programs. In addition, activities that allow the health system and the Government of Niger to respond to the recurring nutrition crisis, as well as appropriate health and hygiene messages, are critical to address chronic acute malnutrition and save lives in the long term in vulnerable areas of Niger.
- In Niger, Médecins Sans Frontières/France (MSF/F) reports treating 19,414 severely malnourished children since January 1 at the MSF/F therapeutic feeding centers (TFCs) in Tahoua and Maradi regions. During the week of August 8 to 14, MSF/F admitted 1,900 children. As of August 14, MSF/F was treating 873 children as inpatients and 5,853 as outpatients. MSF/Switzerland began operations on July 21 in southern Zinder Region and is currently treating 450 children as inpatients and 1,800 as outpatients. On August 15, MSF/Holland opened a center in Diffa Region.
- According to the Ministry of Health (MOH) and the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO), 188 cases of cholera with 18 deaths—representing a case-fatality rate (CFR) of 9.6 percent—were reported in Tahoua Region between July 13 and August 29. Last year, 2,176 cases and 57 deaths were reported. Cases are spreading along the Magia wadi, a temporary river formed during the rainy season.
- The MOH has reported 277,620 malaria cases and 547 deaths in Niger since January 1. The U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and WHO are currently distributing approximately 130,000 insecticide-treated bed nets to severely malnourished children in the most vulnerable regions. WHO reports that approximately 777,000 cases and 2,000

¹ U.N. World Food Program

² Affected populations may have varying levels of need, from complete food distributions to little or no assistance.

deaths related to malaria are notified each year in Niger. The months of greatest risk for exposure are July to September, which coincide with the rainy season.

- UNICEF reported 2,132 measles cases with 16 deaths between January 1 and July 23 in Niger. During the same period in 2004, 63,726 measles cases and 487 deaths were reported. UNICEF attributes this year's reduction in cases to the 98 percent coverage achieved during the measles vaccination campaigns conducted in December 2004 in 6 of the 8 regions of Niger. UNICEF and MOH plan to conduct a final measles campaign this month in the two regions of the country not already covered.

Mali Update

- On August 30, the USAID/DART traveled to Timbuktu and stopped at a cattle market in the village of Kahume. The area had good pasturelands, and livestock appeared to be in excellent condition. According to local reports to the USAID/DART, in normal times, one cow is worth 100,000 to 150,000 CFA (\$186 to \$280), while one goat is worth 15,000 CFA (\$28). Animals were selling for much less than this: goats on average sold for 5,000 CFA (\$9), and cows sold for 45,000 to 50,000 CFA (\$83 to \$93). Rice and millet were selling at 30,000 CFA (\$56) per 100 kg bag, higher than the average 10,000 CFA (\$18) for 100 kg of millet and 20,000 CFA (\$37) for 100 kg of rice.
- From August 26 to 28, Assistant Administrator Hess traveled with USAID/DART and USAID/Mali representatives to affected areas of Gao Region, including N'Tillit and Bourem districts. The delegation met with government officials, NGOs, and community groups to discuss the causes and effects of the current food insecurity situation, focusing on water management, livestock health, agriculture, nutrition, and household debt levels. The delegation also visited the TFC opened on July 1 at Gao Hospital and operated by Action Contre le Faim (ACF). On the day of the visit, 10 children were receiving treatment in the nutrition ward. The TFC treated 11 children in July and 18 as of the date of the visit in August.
- On August 25, the USAID/DART traveled to Tin-Aouker, approximately 70 km north of Gao, for the weekly livestock market. Local officials noted that they had received four to five consecutive years of poor rains, with last year being the most difficult, and that the area was not affected by locusts in 2004 because there was no grass to devour. The USAID/DART observed that the weekly market in this area, which locals stated had boasted hundreds of animals in past years, contained approximately a dozen goats. Residents noted that animals were not being sold both because many had died, and because animals currently fetch poor prices. Area residents told the USAID/DART that in addition to food, they are concerned with expanding and improving water points, and they need better access to credit so that young people who are unemployed could begin small community businesses rather than leaving the community in search of work.
- On August 23 and 24, the USAID/DART program officer met with six leading humanitarian NGOs in Bamako to discuss food insecurity, the effects of the situation on country programs, and whether these NGOs had changed strategies as a result. Although opinions varied from considering the situation an emergency to viewing it as normal for this time of year, several NGOs had shifted programming to some extent. These NGOs believe that the present situation is not an emergency that approaches levels of severity of previous years or in other countries, and they hold that the immediate needs are likely to resolve themselves with the next harvest. However, food insecurity is severe in scattered pockets that are often remote and hard to access, primarily in the north of Mali. The NGOs agreed that structural problems—which ultimately must be addressed by development programs—are the root cause of the food insecurity.
- According to the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), the water levels in all the watercourses in Mali rose in July. Hydrological and climatic forecasts indicate that good rainfall conditions will extend into September. Some mature solitary adult desert locusts were observed in central Adrar des Iforas and Tamesna; as ecological conditions improve, small-scale locust breeding could occur.

Burkina Faso Update

- According to the USAID/DART, beginning in November 2004, the Government of Burkina Faso (GOBF) undertook a survey of households in northern Burkina Faso that had lost 100 percent of their crops, and the GOBF allocated 500 MT of cereals to these households. In February 2005, as prices continued to increase, the GOBF released 2,000 MT of millet, sold at a subsidized price of 5,000 CFA (\$9) per 100 kg bag, to the market to stabilize the prices. In May/June 2005, the GOBF released another 7,000 MT of millet, sold at 10,000 CFA (\$18) per 100 kg bag, to 11 affected provinces. In July 2005, the GOBF released 5,000 MT of millet for sale at 10,000 CFA (\$18) per 100 kg bag.
- From August 24 to August 27, the USAID/DART conducted a field assessment in the Northern Region, composed of Loroum, Yatenga, Zondoma, and Passore provinces, and the Sahel Region, composed of Soum, Seno, Oudalan, and Yagha provinces. The USAID/DART's objectives for this assessment were to conduct focus group discussions on the food security situation with village residents in Yatenga, Loroum, and Seno provinces, and to meet with community leaders in areas of Seno and Oudalan provinces where residents benefited from seed fairs. The USAID/DART consistently found that residents had been eating almost exclusively wild leaves over a long period of time. Eating leaves and wild fruits is a lean season coping mechanism practiced throughout the Sahel when

families run short of food supplies before the next harvest comes. In all areas visited, the USAID/DART found residents selling their assets, including jewelry, tools, and animals, to purchase food.

- During the August 24 to 27 assessment, the USAID/DART discussed Catholic Relief Services' (CRS) May and June 2005 seed fair programs with a village chief of Falagountou in Seno Province and with a government official in Oudalan Province. Both individuals stated that CRS' seed fair interventions were the appropriate activity undertaken at exactly the right time. The U.N. World Food Program (WFP) reported that farmers who benefited from this program have fields with crops in an advanced state of development. According to local officials, program beneficiaries will begin harvesting in approximately two weeks.
- The Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) has raised the number of people estimated to live below the poverty line in Burkina Faso from 1 million to 1.5 million. This population requires assistance due to weak purchasing power and lack of productive assets. In meetings with the USAID/DART, the MOA acknowledged that the provinces of Loroum, Soum, and Oudalan, among others, are experiencing food crises, but described these situations as isolated problems. The MOA is interested in pursuing small-scale irrigation projects and dry season farming in northern Burkina Faso, and reinforcing the food security reserve.
- On August 23, the USAID/DART met with an official from WFP. WFP noted that the situation in Burkina Faso is not as severe as that of Niger or Mali because Burkina Faso had three years of relatively good harvests, with 2002/2003 being an average year and 2003/2004 and 2004/2005 both surplus years. Burkina Faso was also not as affected by locusts or drought. Additionally, early emergency interventions by the GOBF, U.N. agencies, and NGOs, starting in November 2004 and scheduled to continue until October 2005, alleviated the food insecurity situation in Burkina Faso. WFP noted that coordination between organizations involved in food security issues has been excellent, and that more than 90 percent of all food distributions have gone to the provinces identified as most affected.
- On August 22, USAID/DART and U.S. Embassy/Ouagadougou representatives met with a food security specialist from the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) to discuss the food security situation in Burkina Faso. The FEWS NET representative stated that pastoralists in northern Burkina Faso have no food reserves, and water for animals is scarce. In some areas, the terms of trade have deteriorated from 4 goats for 100 kg of millet in 2004 to 10 goats for 100 kg of millet in mid-2005.

Mauritania Update

- Two USAID/DART representatives have been conducting assessments with WFP, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and FEWS NET representatives in the past week.
- On August 27 and 28, the USAID/DART visited Rosso, Trarza Region to hold evaluation meetings with the communities of Hassy Hamidine and Mbalal. On August 30, the USAID/DART traveled to Ayoun in Hodh el Gharbi Region, and Nema in Hodh Ech Chargui Region, to meet with NGOs and perform site visits to Bassikinou, Fassala, Bousteila, and Hodh Ech Chargui.

USAID ASSISTANCE

Regional Response

- The USAID-supported West Africa Regional Program (WARP) handles West African development challenges that are most effectively addressed at a regional level. WARP works closely with USAID missions in the region, including USAID's bilateral missions in Mali and Senegal, and U.S. embassies in countries where USAID does not have a mission. The Sahelian countries benefit from WARP through their membership in such organizations as the West African Economic and Monetary Union, the Economic Community of West African States, and CILSS. WARP supports activities in 19 West African countries, including Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, and Niger. WARP representatives are currently working in the region to develop strategies to control market fluctuation and implement near-term market interventions.
- In response to the 2004/2005 locust infestation, USAID provided nearly \$14 million to support locust control efforts throughout Sahelian West Africa in FY 2005. Through a grant to FAO, USAID supported agricultural relief and recovery programs, including the provision of livestock feed support and agricultural inputs for dry season gardening activities, in Niger. USAID provided support to the Government of Mali for combating the locust infestation, providing pesticides, and funding related control activities. In Mauritania and Senegal, USAID supported locust prevention and response activities, including an aerial spraying campaign.

Niger

- USAID has provided more than \$19 million in assistance to Niger to date in FY 2005. These funds have supported food security and agriculture projects, emergency and development food assistance, and airlifts of fortified food for emergency nutrition programs. USAID assistance funds programs focused on community-based development, child survival and health, youth, and human rights. USAID has also provided 12,230 MT of development food assistance and 7,860 MT of emergency food assistance to Niger in FY 2005.

Mali

- To date in FY 2005, USAID has provided more than \$39 million in assistance to Mali. In FY 2005, USAID has provided 1,710 MT of development food commodities and 1,000 MT of emergency food commodities to Mali. Additionally, USAID’s development program in Mali works to expand economic opportunities, particularly for the rural poor; provides high impact health services to improve the health and welfare of women and children; mitigates the spread of HIV/AIDS; improves the quality of basic education; consolidates democracy through support of decentralization; supports human rights; and accelerates overall development by making information more widely accessible.

Mauritania

- To date in FY 2005, USAID has provided more than \$16 million to various programs in Mauritania. USAID activities in Mauritania primarily focus on improving food security. USAID has provided 19,330 MT of development food assistance and 16,240 MT of emergency food assistance to Mauritania in FY 2005. USAID also funded programs addressing human rights and community-based development activities.

Burkina Faso

- USAID has provided approximately \$18 million in assistance to date in FY 2005. USAID focuses the majority of its assistance to Burkina Faso on improving food security. In FY 2005, USAID has provided 24,240 MT of development food commodities. USAID also funds programs that support local human rights, community-based development activities, political party development, and technical assistance for elections.

Senegal

- To date in FY 2005, USAID has provided nearly \$31 million to Senegal. USAID activities in Senegal focus largely on the sectors of health, economic growth, agriculture, and education. USAID has provided 4,390 MT of development food assistance to Senegal in FY 2005.

BACKGROUND

- In 2004, an early end to the rains and desert locust damage to pasture lands adversely affected pasture availability and cereal production in Sahelian West Africa. These events exacerbated existing poverty and vulnerabilities and resulted in elevated food insecurity in agro-pastoral and pastoral zones in Niger, Mali, Burkina Faso, and Mauritania. The situation in Niger is considered to be an emergency, with more than 2.7 million people affected. In Burkina Faso, Mali, and Mauritania, more than 2 million people are affected, and the situation in these countries warrants close monitoring.
- Regional assessments have used the word “affected” to impart that this population was impacted in some way by either locust infestation or the early cessation of rains. Affected populations have varying levels of humanitarian needs. Some may require food distributions, while others may require little or no assistance of any kind. USAID recognizes that endemic poverty and underdevelopment are critical factors contributing to the current humanitarian emergency and is committed to addressing these factors through an appropriate combination of USAID development and humanitarian assistance.
- According to the USAID-funded FEWS NET, recent assessments continue to show consistent rainfall and good crop and pasture conditions in most of Niger and almost all of the rest of Sahelian West Africa. The short-term outlook for these conditions is for steady improvement. Prospects for crop harvests in Niger and the rest of the Sahel are generally good to excellent, with the exception of certain areas in the pastoral zone of the Tillaberi and western Tahoua regions in Niger; these zones had intermittent rains and an extended dry spell this year. Loss of assets or livestock over the past year may result in continued vulnerability for some families beyond the harvest.
- In response to the humanitarian emergency, USAID deployed a USAID/DART to Sahelian West Africa on August 3, 2005. USAID/DART staff include public health and nutrition specialists, a water and sanitation specialist, food aid officers, and information officers. Additional USAID/DART members already in the region include regional advisors for North and West Africa, a development officer, and a FEWS NET representative. On August 11, USAID activated a Response Management Team (RMT) in Washington, D.C. to assist the USAID/DART.
- FAO reported on August 25 that low numbers of scattered solitary adult locusts have been found in Mauritania, Mali, and Niger, and reports of limited locust breeding have come from Mauritania. Ground surveys supplemented by helicopters are underway in the Sahel to detect the first signs of an increase in the locust population. However, locust control operations in these countries have not been needed this growing season.

USAID ASSISTANCE TO NIGER

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE³			
CRS	Food Security/Agriculture	Tillaberi and Zinder	\$494,513
FAO	Food Security/Agriculture	Countrywide	\$50,000

UNICEF	Airlift of 251 MT of fortified food for emergency nutrition programs	Countrywide	\$543,826
World Vision	Nutrition	Maradi and Zinder	\$1,087,711
Helen Keller International	Nutrition	Diffa	\$1,091,471
WFP	Humanitarian Air Passenger Service	Countrywide	\$125,000
CDC	Nutritional Survey	Countrywide	\$97,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$3,489,521
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
Consortium including Africare, Catholic Relief Services, CARE, and Helen Keller International	12,230 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Development Food Assistance	Agadez, Dosso, Tahoua, and Zinder	\$7,390,000
WFP	7,860 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$5,800,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$13,190,000
USAID/AFR ASSISTANCE			
	Youth Programs		\$500,000
	Democracy and Human Rights Fund		\$92,000
	Special Self-Help		\$74,000
	Trans-Sahara Counter-Terrorism Initiative		\$1,050,000
	WARP Support		\$732,000
TOTAL USAID/AFR			\$2,448,000
TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO NIGER IN FY 2005			\$19,127,521

³ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of September 2, 2005.

USAID ASSISTANCE TO MALI

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE⁴			
Africare	1,710 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Development Food Assistance	Timbuktu Region	\$930,000
WFP	1,000 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$667,100
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$1,597,100
USAID/AFR ASSISTANCE			
	Economic Growth ⁵		\$1,723,000
	Education		\$5,755,000
	Democracy and Governance		\$1,447,000
	Health		\$15,705,000
	Agriculture/Environment ⁵		\$11,044,000
	Democracy and Human Rights Fund		\$70,000
	Special Self-Help Fund		\$77,000
	Trans-Sahara Counter-Terrorism Initiative		\$725,000
	WARP Support		\$1,389,000
TOTAL USAID/AFR			\$37,935,000
TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO MALI IN FY 2005			\$39,532,100

⁴ For Reporting purposes, USAID/Mali's P.L. 480 Title II program is combined with the P.L. 480 Title II program in Chad. The implementing partner is responsible for reporting on both Mali and Chad. The referenced figures are therefore not reflected in Mali's Congressional Budget Justification (CBJ).

⁵ This total includes funding for the locust response.

USAID ASSISTANCE TO MAURITANIA

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE⁶			
DFS	Locust Response		\$177,777
World Vision	Supplementary Feeding Program		\$50,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$227,777
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
World Vision and the Doulos Community	19,330 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Development Food Assistance	Nouakchott	\$6,579,600
WFP	16,240 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Brakna, Gorgol, Tagant, Assaba, and Hodh El Gharbi	\$8,671,700
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$15,251,300
USAID/AFR ASSISTANCE			
	Democracy and Human Rights Fund		\$80,000
	Special Self-Help Fund		\$87,000
	Trans-Sahara Counter-Terrorism Initiative		\$250,000
	WARP Support		\$459,000
TOTAL USAID/AFR			\$876,000
TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO MAURITANIA IN FY 2005			\$16,355,077

⁶USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of September 2, 2005.

USAID ASSISTANCE TO BURKINA FASO

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
Africare, Catholic Relief Services	24,240 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Development Food Assistance	Zondoma province (Africare); all 45 provinces (CRS)	\$15,570,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$15,570,000
USAID/AFR ASSISTANCE			
	Democracy and Human Rights Fund		\$69,500
	Special Self-Help fund		\$104,000
	WARP Support		\$1,628,000
	Economic Support Fund		\$463,000
TOTAL USAID/AFR			\$2,264,500
TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO BURKINA FASO IN FY 2005			\$17,834,500

USAID ASSISTANCE TO SENEGAL

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			
Counterpart International	4,390 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Development Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$2,268,700
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$2,268,700
USAID/AFR ASSISTANCE			
	Economic Growth ⁷		\$2,474,810
	Basic Education		\$2,927,000
	Democracy and Governance		\$1,655,000
	Health		\$14,775,000
	Agriculture/Environment ⁷		\$5,188,000
	Human Rights		\$500,000

	Democracy and Human Rights Fund		\$70,500
	Special Self-Help Fund		\$80,000
	Trans-Sahara Counter-Terrorism Initiative		\$175,000
	WARP Support		\$803,000
TOTAL USAID/AFR			\$28,648,310
TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO SENEGAL IN FY 2005			\$30,917,010

⁷This total includes funding for the locust response.

USAID REGIONAL ASSISTANCE TO LOCUST RESPONSE

<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE⁸			
FAO	Locust Response	Chad	\$50,000
AFCAP	Locust Response	Mauritania and Senegal	\$2,555,761
DFS	Locust Response	Mauritania and Senegal	\$3,101,735
Admin	Locust Response	Mauritania and Senegal	\$74,302
USAID/Senegal	Locust Response	Mauritania and Senegal	\$50,000
Gov. of Morocco	Locust Response	Morocco	\$1,500,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$7,331,798
USAID/AFR ASSISTANCE⁹			
USAID/WARP	Locust Response	Regional	\$1,500,000
TOTAL USAID/AFR			\$1,500,000
USAID/ANE ASSISTANCE			
Gov. of Morocco	Locust Response	Morocco	\$1,500,000
TOTAL USAID/ANE			\$1,500,000
TOTAL USAID REGIONAL ASSISTANCE TO LOCUST RESPONSE IN FY 2005			\$10,331,798

⁸USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of September 2, 2005.

⁹In addition, USAID/AFR provided \$1 million to Mali and \$2.5 million to Senegal for locust response, which is reflected in the “USAID Assistance to Mali” and “USAID Assistance to Senegal” charts.

TOTAL USAID ASSISTANCE TO BURKINA FASO, MALI, MAURITANIA, NIGER, AND SAHEL LOCUST RESPONSE IN FY 2005	\$134,098,006
--	----------------------

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. Information on identifying such organizations is available in the “How Can I Help” section of www.usaid.gov – Keyword: Sahel, or by calling The Center for International Disaster Information (CIDI) at 703-276-1914.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they: allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, warehouse space, etc); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID: www.usaid.gov – Keyword: Donations
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or (703) 276-1914
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.